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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

GERMAN NOTE STILL NEEDS FIXING

Sec. Lansing Tells German Ambassador That the Latest Lusitania Memorandum Is "Practically" All Right

Washington, Feb. 8.—Unofficial announcement after a half-hour conference between Ambassador von Bernstorff and Secretary of State Lansing this afternoon was that Lansing had informed the German envoy that the Lusitania memorandum is practically satisfactory, but needs certain changes.

This may necessitate further communication with Berlin.

Such communication will include the full text of a tentative draft of settlement, evolved through the informal negotiations between the envoy and the secretary.

"This matter of communicating the text of what will be acceptable is merely a matter of form," said a high official.

From von Bernstorff's attitude it is inferred that Berlin's formal approval could be expected several days later, thus closing the case. He said he will again visit Lansing when he receives the reply.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The diplomatic situation arising from the Lusitania torpedoing looks very hopeful, the White House said today, following a conference between the president and Secretary of State Lansing.

This statement came from a high official, who said also that matters had not reached a stage tangible enough to warrant an official announcement. It is understood his hopeful view was based on the extent to which Ambassador von Bernstorff's memorandum went in making concessions.

Germany, it is expected, has left the way open for further concessions.

It is known that negotiations are likely to continue, with the administration confident that an adjustment can be reported on its terms. Certain recent events are hinted to have had a strong bearing on the situation. Whether these "events" were summed up in the report of Colonel House, or in communications to Ambassador von Bernstorff is unknown, but it is believed the former idea is more probable.

SLAYER OF FRIEND MAKES CONFESSION

Los Angeles, Feb. 8.—Confession of how he brutally murdered his friend, John Alsean, and burned the body was made today by John Rubin, Belvidere ranch employee, according to the sheriff's office.

It was alleged Rubin told a group of deputies that he quarreled with Alsean over money matters, fired five shots into his body, crushed his skull with a hammer, poured kerosene oil over the corpse and set it afire.

The confession was brought about when searchers in the ruins of the burned bunkhouse found a revolver containing five exploded shells. When Rubin was confronted with the gun he confessed, the authorities asserted.

RUSSIANS SINK FORTY TURK SAILING VESSELS

Paris, Feb. 8.—Russian torpedo boats sank 40 Turkish sailing vessels and bombarded three naval construction yards on the Anatolian coast, according to dispatches today.

RACE FOR RUNNING MATE FOR WILSON A FREE-FOR-ALL

St. Louis, Feb. 8.—Proceedings at the democratic national convention here in June will not be rushed, despite the fact that President Wilson faces no opposition for the nomination, according to the view of national committeemen here today who are arranging for the session.

Naming of a temporary chairman will be accomplished in New York in March.

While the presidential nomination is regarded as a foregone conclusion for Wilson, leaders predicted today that there will be an open race for the vice-presidency.

The committeemen indicated that Vice-President Marshall will meet with considerable opposition if he seeks re-nomination. Tom Taggart is alone in championing him. There are, however, no suggestions for a successor.

Clark Howell, editor of the Atlantic Constitution and committeeman for Georgia, said today:

"Bryan is a public nuisance. He will attempt to stir up all the trouble he can between now and the June convention."

FIGHT ON WITH THE ARMOR PLATE MAKERS

Washington, Feb. 8.—The government and the armor plate makers are prepared for a fight.

The senate naval committee already has recommended passage of the bill for government manufacture of armor plate, but this will not pass without a struggle, leaders said today.

Before the committee made its recommendation, Senator Penrose warned that private plants would quit once the law became effective and would add \$200 a ton to the price of their product until the government plant had been completed.

The committee's recommendation came today.

Meanwhile the government plans to use 120,000 tons of plate, which means a cost of \$24,000,000 if the manufacturers carry out their threat.

"But we will find some way to beat the robbers," said Chairman Tillman.

Committee experts reported that the cost of plate is \$260 a ton, whereas the government has been paying \$420 to \$430 a ton for several years.

Senator Phelan and Poindexter are among those who voted for the bill.

PECULIAR AIRSHIP IS SEEN OVER CALIFORNIA

Santa Barbara, Feb. 8.—Following reports of a mysterious aeroplane flying over Venice by night, several residents here today declared they had seen a peculiar airship, looking like a huge spider, maneuvering over the city. It disappeared toward the Santa Barbara Islands.

KAISER'S FIFTH SON IS SLIGHTLY INJURED

Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, Feb. 8.—Prince Oscar, fifth son of the kaiser, was slightly injured by being struck on the head and thigh by shrapnel, said a semi-official announcement today.

COPPER MINERS GET WAGE RAISE

Redding, Cal., Feb. 8.—A voluntary advance of 25 cents a day, dating back to February 1, and to continue as long as copper is over 20 cents a pound, was announced today for the 480 men of the Iron Mountain mine here and the Mountain Copper company mine at Teasick.

NAVAL FIGHT EXPECTED IN NORTH SEA

German Fleet, Newly Equipped With 17-Inch Guns, Said to Be Preparing for Try With British Battleships

London, Feb. 8.—That a mighty battle is imminent in the North sea is believed here today.

Dutch rumors that the Germans are preparing for their long-expected dash constituted the basis for such belief when coupled with seemingly corroborative reports from other sources. The Hague reports were that the Germans along the Belgian coast had withdrawn and taken refuge in the Kiel canal, where Germany's war dogs have been held in leash for most of the war.

Moreover, leaves of absence for all officers are reported to have been cancelled.

At the same time Copenhagen reports said there is extreme activity at Kiel and that the German ships are about to venture forth and risk an engagement. Four Zeppelins and a flock of Taubes have reinforced the air flotilla at Kiel, and it is assumed that these will accompany the warships should they make their rally.

Vague rumors that the Germans planned to attempt a startling coup reached London before the English liner Appam was bagged by a German commerce raider. Since then almost every Berlin dispatch has contained similar rumors.

Germany, according to the stories here, has laid well her plans for a long-delayed venture on the seas. Her dreadnaughts have been equipped with 17-inch guns, while her Zeppelins have been fixed so they can shoot torpedoes from the air, preparatory to challenging the British navy.

At the same time, England has not been unmindful of the possibility of a sea raid, and to this end has been on careful guard. Any venture on Germany's part, navy men say, will find England's mighty fleet ready.

GREEN RIVER VALLEY PREPARED FOR FLOOD

Auburn, Wash., Feb. 8.—Rising water today caused many farmers in the Green River valley to drive their stock into the hills.

INCLUDE DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATION IN A SINGLE OMNIBUS MEASURE

Washington, Feb. 8.—Passage of the most important democratic legislation in a single "omnibus bill" is the daring political strategy democratic leaders today are considering. The house ways and means committee will meet Thursday to consider the proposal as presented by Congressman Garner. He suggested inclusion of the following measures in the one bill:

Revision of the income tax. Levying of new inheritance taxes. Repeal of the war stamp taxes. Increase of the duties on whiskey and cigars.

Taxation of munitions. Creation of a tariff commission, as desired by President Wilson.

Enactment of an anti-dumping clause in the trust laws, in order to prevent cut-throat competition from Europe after the war.

Retention of the sugar duty. Repeal of the tax on mixed flour. Leaders plan to increase the whiskey tax 15 cents a gallon and change the cigar tax from the basis of num-

CONSUL BOPP INDICTED BY JURY

Federal Probers Find True Bill Against Representatives of the Central Powers at San Francisco Today

Washington, Feb. 8.—German Consul Franz Bopp, of San Francisco, was included today among indictments returned by the federal grand jury at San Francisco. Others returned were: Turkish Consul Hall; German Vice-Consul von Schack, of the San Francisco consulate, and one Kauffmann, consulate staff member.

Twenty indictments in all were returned. The charges include violation of the penal code relating to conspiracy, and violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Trials of the indicted men are slated for late in April.

It is understood that Bopp is charged with complicity in the alleged plots of C. C. Crowley and Baron von Brincken to hold up shipments of powder, and to send a spy to Canada to destroy a railroad tunnel. Indictment of von Schack and Kauffmann is understood to be on the same charges.

Turkish Consul Hall is said to have been engaged in the so-called "Sacramento expedition," in which it is charged that the ship Sacramento was sent out of San Francisco to supply a German squadron.

The indictments were announced by the department of justice.

San Francisco, Feb. 8.—Word of the indictment of Consul Bopp and other representatives of the central powers here did not come as a surprise, as it had been reported that Bopp and von Schack would be drawn into the federal net around alleged anti-ally bomb plotters.

Investigation of the activities of the consulate had been proceeding for some time. The first arrests as a result of this probe were C. C. Crowley, Baron von Brincken, and Mrs. Margaret Cornell. It was claimed these parties had been active in anti-ally plotting. They pleaded not guilty.

Word of the Turkish consul's indictment, however, was an unexpected development.

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These moves would raise \$35,000,000, it is estimated, thus replacing \$33,000,000 worth of stamp taxes scheduled for repeal.

While the increased tax on whiskey is bound to meet with concerted opposition from many liquor interests, leaders are inclined to believe that such a move would be more popular than the stamp tax.

"Dry" members will give such a plan their ardent support, while other members are likely to support it from the standpoint of political and economic expediency.

DIDN'T KNOW STOLEN OVERCOAT WAS LOADED

Los Angeles, Feb. 8.—Somewhere in this city today stalks a burglar wearing a heavy coat and vest in which it is estimated 25,000,000 smallpox germs reside. He stole the garments from a quarantined house—without knowing it was quarantined.

DU PONT FACTORY VICTIM SECOND MYSTERIOUS FIRE

Tacoma, Feb. 8.—Less than eight hours after the nitro-glycerine mixing house blew up, killing three men, one of the packing houses of the Du Pont company's plant near here was destroyed by a fire of mysterious origin and an explosion last night. News of the second disaster was withheld by officials of the company and became known today only by accident.

I. J. Cox, superintendent of the Du Pont Powder company, declared today that he is unable to account for the destruction of the packing house, and intimated that outside agents may have started the fire.

In this connection it became known today that Gustave Wolff, one of the men killed in yesterday's explosion, was formerly in the German army. He had been employed at the plant since last April.

Cox said the fire may have been set by foreign agents, although he had no evidence to support this theory. He said the powder in the house exploded following discovery of the fire, completely wrecking the building. The fire department was called and kept the flames from spreading to adjoining buildings.

Guards at the plant made a thorough investigation, but were unable to indicate the origin of the fire.

Extra precautions are being taken today by the officials of the Du Pont company to prevent further explosions or fires. The entire plant is walled in by an iron fence, with heavily barred gates. Squads of mounted and unmounted guards patrol the grounds inside the fence.

NAVAJO INDIANS GO ON WAR PATH

Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 8.—Lashed into a fury of hate against the whites by Chief Bzoshie, 80-year-old tribal leader, the Navajo Indians in northern Arizona today are prepared to go on the war path.

This was the news brought to Flagstaff by Wm. Durbee, superintendent of construction of the Indian school at Tuba, who fought his way on skis through 150 miles of snow and cold of Arctic severity.

It is days since Durbee started on his terrible journey, and it is possible that the Indians may have already massacred the 20 white families on the Painted desert near the reservation.

United States Attorney Tom Flynn and United States Marshal Dillon waited instructions from Washington today before acting. As all roads are heavy with snow, transportation of troops to the scene would be very difficult, necessitating a march of 150 miles from the railroad.

Chief Bzoshie is the Indian who stirred up the last Navajo uprising. He was induced to surrender by General Scott, who penetrated the hostile country accompanied by only one aide.

CONSULS DEMAND GOLD PAYMENTS

London, Feb. 8.—German consuls in Holland are refusing fee payments in German currency and instead are insisting on gold or Dutch currency at the rate prevailing before the war.

This was said by a Reuter dispatch today to be due to the depreciation of German credit.

An Amsterdam message reported that Berlin is considering adding two more meatless days to the week because of a shortage of foodstuffs, while it is reported that Germany soon will forbid importation of luxuries as a further step toward economy.

NO DANGER OF INVASION SAYS MILES

Army Chief Tells Committee on Military Affairs Enemy Could Not Land Troops in Numbers on American Soil

Washington, Feb. 8.—Landing of 500,000 invaders on American shores would be impossible if submarines were active, declared General Neison A. Miles before the house military committee today. At the same time Admiral Blue declared the navy could reach the Pacific coast before an enemy could land thereon.

These two statements stood out in the midst of a constant stream of pessimistic testimony regarding preparedness of the nation presented for several weeks to the committee.

Blue said that the Panama canal would aid the fleet to reach the Pacific in haste, if required. He urged the need of purchasing anti-aircraft guns, and recorded himself as opposed to a one-year enlistment plan.

"If half a million of men landed on either coast," said Miles, "and we were unable to raise enough men to drive them out, I would want to move to another country."

He declared that America's coast fortifications equalled any in the world, not excepting those at the Dardanelles. In this connection, he said that the experience of the European war has shown that battleships are ineffective in reducing such forts.

As for conscription, he said it was not worth much.

"Overseas expeditions such as we are told will proceed against us are expensive, and as a rule disastrous," he continued. "They spring from the minds of men, writing about preparedness, who know less about war than anything else."

Representatives of the National Grange and the Farmers' union protested to the committee against "militarism." T. J. Tabor informed the members that farmers of 32 states, in convention at Oakland, had declared for government manufacture of munitions.

"Would you farmers do away with cyclone cellars," asked Congressman Kahn.

"I have a stone cellar now, but I'd be a fool to build another," retorted Organizer Dornblaser of Texas, representing the union. He favored more coast defenses and submarines, however.

17 LOST LIVES IN THE OTAY DELUGE

San Diego, Feb. 8.—A complete checking up today by Coroner Marsh showed that 17 persons lost their lives in the recent deluge in the Otay, Tia Juana, Mission and San Pasqual valleys. Ten bodies have been recovered and seven persons are missing.

With large gangs of men rushing work on the pipe lines running to back country reservoirs, and no prospect of more rain, normal water service soon will be given in the flooded districts.

A large sum has been diverted by the city from a former bond issue to pay for immediate improvements.

41 INCHES OF SNOW WITHIN 24 HOURS

Granite Falls, Wash., Feb. 8.—All camps and lumber mills are shut down here today on account of snow and high water. During the last 24 hours 41 inches of snow fell.